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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/763,226	01/26/2004	Flora Goldthwaite	MFCP.108792	6550
45809 7590 10/16/2007 SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P. (c/o MICROSOFT CORPORATION) INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 2555 GRAND BOULEVARD KANSAS CITY, MO 64108-2613			EXAMINER PATEL, NIRAV B	
			ART UNIT 2135	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/16/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/763,226

Applicant(s)

GOLDTHWAITE ET AL.

Examiner

Nirav Patel

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2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 August 2007 (Amendment).
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment filed on Aug. 9, 2007 has been entered. Claims 1-23 are pending. Claims 1 and 12 are amended by the applicant.
2. The Office would like to notify the Applicant that there has been a change in the Examiner to conduct the future examination and prosecution processes of the currently pending application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cannon et al (US Patent No. 6,678,824).

As per claim 1, Cannon discloses:

a credit storage area for storing credits earned by a child, wherein each credit entitles the child to a fixed amount of access to the set of resources [Fig. 1, 3 col. 4 lines 51-52]; credit tracking tools for adding credits to the credit storage area for homework or housework tasks performed by the child and subtracting credits from the credit storage area in response to monitored fun activities of the child [Fig. 4, 5A, col. 2 lines 1-7, col. 7

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lines 13-30]; and an access regulation module for denying child access to the set of resources upon detection of insufficient credits in the credit storage area [Fig. 4, 5A, 5B, col. 7 lines 40-53].

As per claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

administrator controls including a rules definition module for allowing an administrator to set access rules [Fig. 2, col. 5 lines 20-30, 44-48].

As per claim 3, the rejection of claim 2 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

a child selection module enabling the administrator to create a rule set for each child [Fig. 3].

As per claim 4, the rejection of claim 2 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

a device selection module for allowing the administrator to apply the access rules to a selected device [col. 8 lines 18-30, Fig. 2, col. 5 lines 19-38].

As per claim 5, the rejection of claim 2 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

a content selection module enabling the administrator to select content viewable by the child [col. 5 lines 20-38, col. 6 lines 13-26].

As per claim 6, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

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activity monitoring tools for determining if a child performs a required activity [Fig. 1, col. 6 lines 13-39].

As per claim 7, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

a child user interface including a credit gauge enabling the child to view available credits [Fig. 3].

As per claim 8, the rejection of claim 7 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

the child interface includes a prompting display for prompting the child to earn credits [Fig. 1, 2].

As per claim 9, the rejection of claim 7 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

a notification display for notifying a child that insufficient credits are available [Fig. 1, 5A].

As per claim 10, the rejection of claim 7 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

a prompting display for prompting the child to perform required tasks [Fig. 1, 5A, 5B].

As per claim 11, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

an administrator user interface including a child activity log for allowing the parent to view the most recently performed child activity [Fig. 1, 3, 4].

As per claim 12, Cannon discloses:

storing a set of credits in a credit storage area, wherein each credit entitles the child to a fixed amount of access to the set of resources [Fig. 3, 4]; tracking credits earned in response to a child's performance of selected work activities wherein the work activities are defined by a given set of rules established by at least one of a parent, guardian, babysitter or teacher of the child [Fig. 1, 2, 4, col. 5 lines 19-52, col. 6 lines 13-26]; tracking credits used in response to the child's use of the set of resources; and denying child access to the set of resources if insufficient credits exist in the credit storage area [Fig. 5A, 5B, col. 7 lines 20-39].

As per claim 13, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and Cannon teaches:

allowing an administrator to select a child from a list of children using a child selection module [Fig. 1, 3, col. 5 lines 19-43].

As per claim 14, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 2. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 2 above.

As per claim 15, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 3. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 3 above.

As per claim 16, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 4. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 4 above.

As per claim 17, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 5. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 5 above.

As per claim 18, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and Cannon teaches: monitoring child activities in order to keep track of earned credits [Fig. 1, 4].

As per claim 19, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 7. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 7 above.

As per claim 20, the rejection of claim 19 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 8. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 8 above.

As per claim 21, the rejection of claim 19 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 9. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 9 above.

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As per claim 22, the rejection of claim 19 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 10. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 10 above.

As per claim 23, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and it encompasses limitations that are similar to limitations of claim 11. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 11 above.

Response to Amendment

4. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 12, which necessitated new ground of rejection. See rejection above.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yuen (Us 5716273) – Apparatus and method for controlling educational and amusement use of a television

Ho et al (US 5743743) – Learning method and system that restricts entertainment

Lotvin et al (US 5907831) – Computer apparatus and method supporting different categories of user

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Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nirav Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-5936. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax and phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

NBP

10/9/07



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